

The Mirror

OF

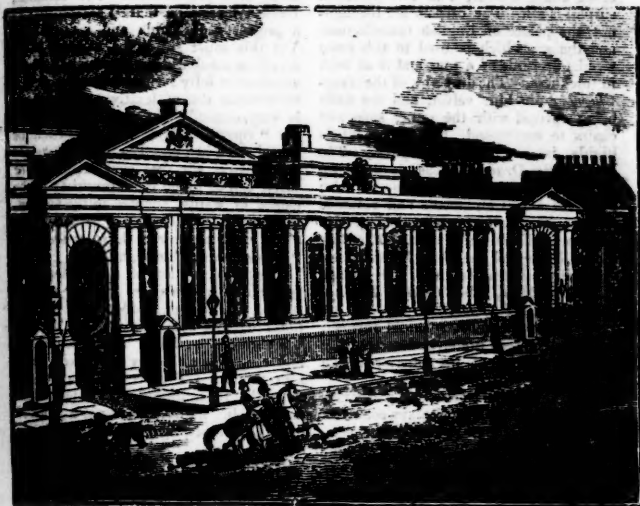
LITERATURE, AMUSEMENT, AND INSTRUCTION.

No. 210.]

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 1836.

[PRICE 2d.]

Carlton Palace.



In No. 164 of the *MIRROR*, we presented our readers with a view of Buckingham House; and following up our plan of giving engravings of all the royal residences, we now take Carlton House, the town residence of his Majesty, George the Fourth. This extensive building (of which the above is a most accurate and spirited illustration) is threatened with almost immediate destruction, and must yield to the spirit of improvement that suggested the erection of a new palace, more worthy the residence of the monarch of the British Empire. The splendid building, now erecting on the site of the Queen's Palace, is in a state of great forwardness, and we trust that its magnificence and beauty of architecture, will do ample credit to the taste and liberality of our country, and that it may no longer be remarked by foreigners, that "our poorhouses are like palaces, and our palaces like prisons."

Carlton House is situate on the northern side of St. James's Park, and fronting Pall Mall. Its appearance from Regent-street is exceedingly heavy and gloomy, and conveys but little idea either of its extent or magnificence, the principal

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front being divided from the street by a low screen, surmounted by a beautiful colonnade. This screen, it is understood, will be preserved, and on the removal of the palace, it is contemplated that a square, or rather place, somewhat resembling Portland Place, should occupy the site of Carlton Gardens.

In order, therefore, that our country readers, especially, may form some idea of its *present* state, we will conduct them into the *Great Hall*, and thence through the apartments most worthy of observation, for by referring to p. 409, vol. vii. of the *MIRROR*, they will find an intelligent friend has somewhat anticipated our notice of the building, under the head of "Carlton Palace and the Rookery."

The *Great Hall* is extremely capacious, and is embellished with columns of beautiful Sienna marble. It displays numerous sculptural ornaments, is lighted by an oval skylight, and conducts to the *Vestibule*, a fine apartment, which leads to the centre of the suite of rooms. The *Great Staircase* is divided into arches, and is extremely grand.

The *West Ante-Room* is used as a waiting-room for persons of distinction,

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and contains whole length portraits by Sir Joshua Reynolds and Hoppner. *The Circular Room*, and *Crimson Drawing-Room*, are highly splendid—the draperies of the one being of crimson satin, and the other of light blue silk; but, for magnificence and grandeur, *The Throne-Room* surpasses all. The carpets are throughout the palace of English manufacture, and the one which is used in this room weighs upwards of a ton, and is an inch in thickness. The draperies of the *Ante-Chamber* are blue velvet, and the walls being covered with the same, sofas and chairs to correspond, the apartment is highly interesting and elegant. *The Rose Satin Drawing-Room* is fitted up in the Chinese style. It abounds with beautiful China ornaments and valuable stones. To the lovers of painting, this apartment affords a rich treat. *The Blue Velvet Room* and the *Blue Velvet Closet* are state apartments, and the *Golden Drawing-Room*, the *Gothic Dining-Room*, and the *Bow Sitting-Room*, are fitted up in the most splendid manner, and must be seen to convey a correct idea of the grandeur of the interior of an English palace.

The Library is capacious, and overlooks the gardens. It displays considerable taste, and the books, in their splendid variety of superb bindings, are classed, and conveniently arranged. *The Conservatory*, the pavement of which is composed of Portland stone, is entered by three folding sash doors of plate glass. The perspective is fine, and the interior resembles a small cathedral, built in the Gothic style of architecture; and though last, not least, is the *Armory*, occupying three or four spacious rooms, and containing the finest collection of curiosities, &c. in the world. To describe these magnificent apartments, is a task we could not perform, were even the thirty-two columns of the MIRROR left open for our observation. It must suffice that here are the rarest specimens of arms from all nations,—caps, boots, spurs, turbans, shields, bows, dresses, models of horses, helmets, sabres, swords, daggers, canopies, palanquins, guns, coats of mail,—and to these considerable additions have lately been made, by presents received by his Majesty from India, Egypt, and the most distant parts of the world.

ON WIT.

(For the Mirror.)

THERE is, perhaps, scarcely any thing in the world so universally admired as wit; and again, *à contrain*, hardly a subject upon which we can find a greater

difference of opinion than among the most celebrated authors in their several definitions of it. Indeed, it seems to have been their studious aim, in dissertations on this topic, to manage the explication so dexterously, as necessarily to comprehend their own productions. For instance; Dryden maintains that “wit consists in a propriety of words and sentiments.” Yet this must surely be allowed to be nearly as much distinct from wit, as from nonsense or folly; since it merely implies an accurate use of lexicography, and, as is very correctly observed, (in No. 63 of the “Spectator,”) if this definition be considered a just one, Euclid was certainly the greatest wit that ever existed! For where can be found more propriety in the choice of words, adapted to the subject, than in his “Elements?” which, so far from inspiring mirth, have proved the “*pons asinorum*” to many.

Locke’s definition of wit is nearly as faulty as Dryden’s; he says, “wit lies in the assemblage of ideas, and putting those together with quickness and variety, wherein can be found any resemblance and congruity; thereby to make a pleasant picture, and agreeable vision to the fancy.” This, however, is a tacit censure on his logic, as it is not a *general* definition of wit, but only of a *particular* species.

Pope is a third instance; he thus explains it:—

“True wit is nature to advantage dress,
What oft was thought, but ne’er so well express’d.”
So that, according to him, nothing can be called witty that is not rhetorical; indeed, it almost seems to imply that sheer nonsense, when expressed elegantly, becomes wit.

Sir William Davenant is another example of false definitions of wit; for, according to him, it is nothing more than discretion and prudent conduct in our several stations in life. Take it in his own words:—“Wit is in divines, humility, exemplariness, and moderation; in statesmen, gravity, vigilance, benign complacency, secrecy, patience, and despatch; in leaders of armies, valour, faithfulness, temperance, dexterity in punishing and rewarding,” &c. Thus far our poetical knight; but (when his hand was in) it was a great pity he had not gone a little farther, as thus: in tanners, the dressing of a hide; in carpenters, adroitness in handling their tools; or in cutlers, the tempering and sharpening razors! *O! rem. ridiculum*, exclaims the reader, smiling.

Mr. Addison, in several successive numbers of the “Spectator,” treats at some length of the various sorts of *false* wit,

and censures authors, who (*oporesè nihil agunt*) employ their talents in acrostics, anagrams, chronograms, epigrams, and puns; yet, in diametrical opposition to this opinion, we find that Dean Swift (in the following well-known lines) considers the smartness of the epigram as indispensable:—

" True wit is like the precious stone,
Dug from the Indian mine;
Which boasts two various powers in one,
To cut as well as shine."

Genius, like that, if polish'd right,
With the same gift abounds;
Appears at once both keen and bright,
And sparkles like it wounds."

The reign of James I. was celebrated for punning, and all orders of society seemed infected by their monarch; in state addresses, tragedies, and sermons, pun was the order of the day, as may be seen in almost every page of the quaint style of authors of that date. Upon sprightly subjects, a pun *in loco* may not be disagreeable; but when we find a writer's invention continually on the stretch to squeeze out a quibbling conceit, a mere puerile play upon words, we cannot but condemn the bad taste which thus destroys the utility of his work, by diverting the reader's attention from the subject. An occasional happy pun is but a poor *salvo* for the numerous far-fetched attempts at what was then called wit.* The licentious reign of Charles II. was a shameful outrage of the rules of even common decency; and the nation seemed determined, by its complete violation of decorum, to make up for the trammels and strait lacing of puritanism, from which it had just been released. The most obscene double entendres, and grossest vulgarity, were not only tolerated on the stage, but even applauded; in a word, the morals of society were utterly corrupted. Such low effusions not only deny an author's pretensions to wit, but loudly proclaim his want of genius, and disgrace the character of man.

" Immodest words admit of no defence,
For want of decency is want of sense."—FORS.

At that period, throwing a tavern waiter out of a window, and desiring it to be charged in the bill! with (to borrow an elegant modern phrase) *larks and greys* of this nature, were considered extremely witty; indeed, in many cases it

* Dr. Johnson, it is well known, was decidedly averse to puns: he was one day censuring the practice, in company with a noted punster, and said it was the lowest species of wit. " True," replied the other, " and hence 'tis the very foundation of wit." The Doctor was piqued at the answer.

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strongly resembled the *Tom and Jerry* school of our time, in which the slang of pickpockets and pugilists (query, which profession claims the preference?) is so prevalent.

Many writers have confused wit with wisdom, as being one and the same thing; but they differ most essentially in their nature, and are, when apart, commendable, but when united, truly admirable. Wit is the nimbleness of the understanding, but wisdom the strength; hence we find that a witty man rarely says a foolish thing; a wise man seldom does one. For instance, the Rev. Dr. *** writes an epigram, the sting of which is pointed at an old friend. This is generally termed wit; but had he instead employed himself in illustrating some scriptural truth, it had been wisdom. Wisdom, the offspring of truth, is a substantial being, accompanied by experience; wit, the progeny of fancy, an imaginary one, attended by humour, a sort of hermaphrodite, between wit and wisdom, being neither real nor imaginary, but partly both. A really witty man is indeed rare; hence the term is commonly used for a humorous one, of whose character Shakspeare thus speaks—wherein we may remark, that his mirth is never unbecoming, never oversteps decency:—

" ——— A merrier man,
Within the limits of becoming mirth,
I never spent an hour's talk withal.
His eye begets occasion for his wit;
For every object that the one doth catch,
The other turns to a mirth-moving jest:
Which his fair tongue (conceit's expositor)
Delivers in such apt and gracious words,
That aged ears play truant at his tales,
And younger hearings are quite ravished;
So sweet and voluble is his discourse."

Love's Labour Lost.
JACOBUS.

MULTUM IN PARVO.

(For the Mirror.)

VASCO DE GAMA was the first who sailed round Africa by the Cape of Good Hope to the East Indies.

In the regions of the torrid zone the birds are not so melodious as ours, though their plumage is much more beautiful.

Constantine the Great was the first emperor that professed the Christian religion.

The grand signior is not permitted to smoke, notwithstanding the meanest wretches in his dominions enjoy that luxury.

The kings of Spain are not crowned.

A few years ago, the Guadiana river, in Spain, was believed to run several miles under ground; modern travellers, however, affirm, that it only runs through a valley.

Formerly the young gentlemen of Spain used to fight with wild bulls; and if they were courageous and active, they received the applause of their mistresses.

At Nismes, in the province of Languedoc, there are some remains of a temple of Diana.

The palace of Versailles was reckoned the most beautiful structure in Europe.

Remains of Roman aqueducts may be seen in many parts of France.

The Assyrian monarchy began through the valour of Ninus, and terminated through the cowardice of Sardanapalus.

The Dutch never eat mackerel; if they find this species of fish in their nets, they return it to the sea again, saying, "it is not fit to eat."

A nautical man uses nautical phrases on all occasions; on subjects of religion, love, politics, or science, he adopts his own habitual phraseology.

Gunpowder may be exploded by reflection; salt may be exploded by rubbing a little sulphur with it in a mortar.

The Isle of Delos, once celebrated as the birth-place of Apollo, and once containing the most magnificent temples in the world, is now uninhabited, and only remarkable for its noble ruins.

An elegant and accomplished writer of the last century observed, that he who sowed a grain of corn, and brought it to maturity, was of more use to his fellow-creatures than the most voluminous author that ever lived.

Mount Atlas was feigned by the poets to sustain the universe; whence we see Atlas represented with the world on his shoulders.

Formerly, the people of Poland embalmed their dead *better* than the Egyptians *did* theirs.

The salt-mines of Poland are vast caverns, abounding in perplexing labyrinths, and at certain periods are excessively cold.

N. W. F.

PETER PINDARICS;

OR, JOE MILLER VERSIFIED.

THE INFIDEL AND QUAKER,

Whoever travels in a coach—

Where right gives license to encroach

To birds of varied feather,

Will meet with those in every station,

Without regard of creed or nation

Whom chance has brought together.

Apropos! here's a case at hand—

The Muse has but to wave her wand,

And friends will ne'er forsake her,

It happen'd as the story goes,

That fate thus brought in constant close

An Infidel and Quaker.

Well—on they chatted for awhile,
And told the tale, and rais'd the smile,

To pass the time the faster;

And friends till now they would have been,

And smil'd and chatted on, I ween,

But for a sad disaster.

The Quaker introduc'd discourse

Of moral cast—and this of course

The sceptic soon offended;

He smiled no more, but quickly went

To prop his cause by argument,

Which soon the Quaker ended.

For he, well arm'd in each attack,

Parried his blows, and gave them back,

With "infinite precision."

And stood invulnerable still,

Defending with the utmost skill

His well-matur'd decision.

"What!" said the Infidel at length,

"You don't believe that David's strength

Could e'er have hurl'd the stone,

Which sunk within Goliath's head,

And laid the mighty giant dead,

Unaided and alone."

"Yes!" quoth the Quaker, "I believe,

And all the word of God receive

As sacred and divine;

No case can be more clear than this,

The giant's head *must* break—if his

Were *half* as soft as *this*!"

ALQUIR.

A TABLE,

Showing the Difference of the Lunar and Arabian Months, with the Days collected.

LUNAR MONTHS.	Number of Days	Days collected.	ARABIAN MONTHS.	Number of Days	Days collected.
January	31	31	Al Moharram	30	30
February	28	59	Safar	29	59
March	31	90	The former Rabi	30	89
April	30	120	The latter Rabi	29	118
May	31	151	The former Jomada	30	148
June	30	181	The latter Jomada	29	177
July	31	212	Rajeb	30	207
August	31	243	Suanban	29	236
September	30	273	Ramadan	30	266
October	31	304	Shawal	29	295
November	30	334	Dhu'l-kanda	30	325
December	31	365	Dhu'l-hajja	29	354

* In the intercalated Arabian years, which are 11 in every 30, viz. 2, 5, 7, 10, 13, 15, 18, 21, 24, 26, 29, the month Dhu'l-hajja has 30 days.

Y. Z.

Origins and Inventions.

No. XIX.

ORATORIO.

TRADITION tells us, that the oratorio owes its origin to Felippo Neri, who flourished in the middle of the sixteenth century, and was the founder of the Roman society called the oratory. He made a

great step to the modern oratorio, by dividing a kind of musical 'mystery' into two parts, one sung before and the other after the sermon. The interest of the auditors being excited by the commencement, Neri's object was effected, by inducing the congregation to remain during the sermon. The first sacred drama, or oratorio, was called *L'Anima e Corpo*, and was performed in the oratory of the church of Santa Maria della Vallicella, at Rome, in the year 1600.

BURLESQUE.

F. VAVASSOR mentions, in his book *De Ludica Dictione*, that burlesque was altogether unknown to the ancients; but others are of a different opinion. We even find that one Raintorius, in the time of Ptolemy Lagus, turned the serious subject of tragedy into ridicule, which is, perhaps, a better plea for the antiquity of farce than of burlesque. The Italians seem to have the justest claim to the invention of burlesque; the first of this kind was Bernio, who was followed by Lalli, Caporali, &c. From Italy it passed into France, and became there so much the mode, that, in 1649, there appeared a book under the title of "The Passion of our Saviour," in burlesque verse. From thence it passed into England, where some have excelled therein.

SAILING-COACHES.

THE curious invention of sailing-coaches was found out by Simon Sterinius, in the Netherlands. An account of an experiment made in one of them will best describe them:—"Purposing to visit Grocius, (saith Gassendus,) Petreskius went to Scheveling, that he might satisfy himself of the carriage and swiftness of a coach; a few years before invented, and made up with that artifice, that with expanded sails it would fly upon the shore as a ship upon the sea. He had formerly heard that Count Maurice, a little after his victory at Newport, had put himself therein, together with Francis Mendoza, his prisoner, on purpose to make trial thereof; and that within two hours they arrived at Putten, which is distant from Scheveling fourteen leagues, or two-and-forty miles. He had therefore a mind to make the experiment of it himself, and he would often tell us with what admiration he was seized, when he was carried with a quick wind, and yet perceived it not, the coach's motion being equally quick."

NAMES OF PLACES.

SUCH towns, cities, or villages, whose terminations are *chester*, *caster*, or *caster*, show that the Romans, in their stay among us, made fortifications about the

places where they are now situated. - In the Latin tongue, *castra* is the name of these fortifications. Such are *Castor*, *Chester*, *Doncaster*, *Leicester*. *Don* signifies a mountain, and *ley*, or *lei*, ground widely overgrown, in our ancient tongue. *Wye*, *wick*, or *wich*, means a place or refuge, and in the termination of Warwick, Sandwich, Greenwich, Woolwich. *Thorp*, before the word village was borrowed from the French, was used in its stead, and is found at the end of many towns' names. *Bury*, *burgh*, *bery*, signifies, metaphorically, a town having a wall about it; sometimes a high or chief place. *Wold* means a plain open country; *combe*, a valley between two hills; *knock*, a hill; *hurst* signifies a woody place; *magh*, a field; *innes*, an island; *worth*, a place situated between two rivers; and *ing*, a track of meadows. *Minster* is a contraction of monastery. All these words are found in many of our names of places, either at the beginning or end.

STOURBRIDGE FAIR.

FULLER relates, "Stourbridge fair is so called from Stour, a little rivulet (on both sides whereof it is kept) on the east of Cambridge, whereof this original is reported. A clothier of Kendal, a town characterized to be *Lanificii gloria et industria præcellens*, casually wetting his cloth in water in his passage to London, exposed it there to sale, on cheap terms, as the worse for wetting, and yet, it seems, saved by the bargain. Next year he returned again, with some other of his townsmen, proffering drier and dearer cloth to be sold. So that within a few years hither came a confluence of buyers, sellers, and lookers-on, which are the three principles of a fair. *In memoria* thereof, Kendal men challenge some privilege in that place, annually choosing one of the town to be chief, before whom an antic sword was carried with some mirthful solemnities, disused of late, since these sad times, which put men's minds into more serious employments." This was about 1417.

MARY-LE-BONE.

THE modern name of Mary-le-bone is a perversion; it was originally written Mary-le-bourne, or Mary-on-the-brook, from the circumstance of its being built on a brook, which still runs from Hampstead across the New-road, through All-sop's-buildings, although now it is of course arched over. A bourne is a brook; and it is a very common termination of the names of English streets and towns. Holborn was originally called Oldbourne, from its standing on a brook. We have

also Eastbourne, Sittingbourne, &c. In the time of Elizabeth it was called Marybone; and it is so distinguished by Lady Wortley Montague (a century later) in the following line:—

"And dukes at Marybone bow time away."

THE MEWS,

As at Charing-Cross, is a name derived by Du Freane, in his *Glossary*, from the Latin *muta*, and French *la meuse*, the disease to which hawks are subject, of yearly mutting or changing their feathers, this being the place where the king's hawks were kept before it was converted into stables. *Muta*, he says, is also the building in which falcons are shut up when they mute or change their feathers. Edward II, in his 13th year, granted to John de la Beche the custody of the king's houses "*de mutis*" at Charring, near Westminster. Ralph de Manners, the king's falconer, had, in the like manner, granted to him the custody of the king's mews at Charing, 23rd Edward III; as also Sir Simon de Burley, 1st Richard II. Henry VIII is said to have kept his horses there, for which purpose he partly rebuilt the old structure; and the same was, by Edward VI and Mary, afterwards enlarged and converted into stabling. From this place, its first use and subsequent application, it has of late years been customary to give to any range of buildings erected for stabling, the appellation of a mews. The little of the original mews which remained, and which was erected as above, was that lately occupied as barracks, and which is now about to give way to the fine new opening to St. Martin's church. It was composed of red "Tudor brick," with stone windows and dressings, supported by buttresses, and crenellated at top.

F. R. Y.

ERRATA.—Page 60, col. 1, line 33. In the article, On the Circulation of the Blood, for "blood" read *body*. And in the fourth line from the bottom, for "head" read *heart*.

STANZAS.

(For the Mirror.)

STARS are gazing, stars are gazing,
Where yon withered turf appears;
Oh 'tis like a mockery, thus
To smile upon this world of tears.

Winds are sighing, winds are sighing,
Where my father's shade lies sleeping;
There—there is an end to sadness,
There—a final bourn to weeping.

He has left us, he has left us,
Lonely—in this world of sorrow;
And the stars upon his grave
May smile upon our own to-morrow.

Flowers are waving, flowers are waving,
O'er his head stone,—fresh and fair:
Oh they bloom, and bloom as sweetly,
As though my hand just placed them there.

Hope is fading, hope is fading,
Its star no longer o'er us playeth;
Like a fair flower by a river,
Watching where the blue tide strayeth.

Time has shadowed, time has shadowed,
With his dark and raven wing,
Many a sunny spot of gladness,
Many a scene of sorrowing.

'Tis our home, our early home,
Its first and fondest image leaves;
The vine-tree, clambering up its doorway,
The swallows singing in its eaves.

Then oft I heard, then oft I heard,
The linnets in the greenwood tree:
And like a child I thought the bird
Attuned his song alone for me.

But 'tis over, but 'tis over,
The day-dreams of my youth are down;
The autumn of my days is coming,
The withered leaf is mine alone.

LARA.

Canterbury, August 5th.

THE ISLE OF MAN AND ITS LAWS.

THE name of Man is supposed to refer to its situation as to the surrounding kingdoms, from the Saxon word *Man*, signifying *among*; others suppose the word to originate from *Maune*, the name of St. Patrick, the apostle of the island, before he assumed that of *Patricius*. By Cæsar it is called *Mona*. All late writers agree that *Mona Cæsaris* is Man; but *Mona Taciti* belongs to Anglesey. Early authors call it *Monada Menavia Secunda* (to distinguish it from Anglesey), *Eudonia*, &c. The Manks derive it traditionally from Mannu Man Maclea, an early king, who first conquered the island. By the inhabitants the island is called *Manning*; and by people in general *Man*.

Its ancient bearing was a ship; but the arms are now, and have been for centuries, Gules, three armed legs proper, or rather argent, conjoined in fess, at the upper part of the thigh, fleeced in triangle, garnished and spurred topaz. So long as the king of Man wrote *Res Maniæ et Insularum*, they bore the ship; but when the Scots had possession, with the Western Islands, the legs were substituted. It is said of the three legs, that with the *toe* of the one they spurned at Ireland, with the *spur* of the other they kick at Scotland, and with the third they bow to England.

It is supposed that the first inhabitants were British; and that they were succeed-

ed by the Druids until the fourth century, when Christianity was introduced into this island.

Among the laws of the island we find the following, some of which are very singular:—

"No action of arrest shall be granted against a landed man, or native of this Isle, to imprison him or to hold him to bail, unless he has obtained the governor's pass, or that there is some other just cause to believe he designs to go off the island; and that any person prosecuted for a foreign debt by an action of arrest, shall be held to bail only for his personal appearance to such action, and for the forthcoming of what effects he hath within this island.

"If any man die, the widow to have one half of all his goods, and half the tenement in which she lives during her widowhood, if his first wife; and one quarter, if the second or third wife. The eldest daughter inherits, if there be no son, though there be other children.

"Persons beating another violently, beside punishment and charges of cure, are fined 10s. But if the person so beat used upbraiding and provoking language so as to cause such beating, they are to be fined 13s. 4d. and to be imprisoned."

An ancient ordinance says, "There ought to be *corbs* pertaining to a man, as if his father hath a pan, the son to have it; or else his best jack and sallet; bow and arrows (commuted by Stat. of 1748,* for the modern weapons of war), his best beard, and best stool; his coultter and rackentree; his best cup, if it be wood and bound with silver and gilt; his best chest. For a woman, the best wheel and cards, rackentree; a sack, or else a Manks spade; the best bead of jet or amber; the best brooch; the best cross; the best pot or pan.

"If any man take a woman (Temporal custom, laws, 1577) by constraint; if she be a wife he must suffer the law for her; if she be a single woman, the deemster shall give her a rope, a sword, and a ring, and she shall have her choice, either to hang with the rope, cut off his head with the sword, or marry him with the ring." Report says, that every complainant has been lenient, except one, who presented the rope, but relented on the prisoner being tucked up, and desired he might be let down. She then presented the ring, but the man replied that one punishment was enough for one crime;

* By the said statute, Protestants are allowed to keep fire-arms, which are to descend to their heirs and assigns, in place of the ancient weapons of war, called *corbs*, and be a full satisfaction for the same.

therefore he should keep the ring for some future occasion.

"Wives have a power to make their wills (though their husbands be living) of one half of all the goods; except in the six northern parishes, where the wife, if she has had children, can only dispose of a third part of the living goods." Tradition says, the south-side ladies obtained this superior privilege, by assisting their husbands in a day of battle.

"Executors of spiritual men have a right to a year's profits, if they live till after twelve o'clock on Easter-day."

They retain the usage (observed by the Saxons before the Conquest), that the bishop, or some priest appointed by him, do always sit in their great court along with the governor, till sentence of death (if any) is to be pronounced; the deemster asking the jury, instead of guilty or not guilty—*Vod fir charree soie?* which is, "May the man of the chancel, or he that ministers at the altar, continue to sit?"

"Mortgages must be recorded within six months; and by the laws of the island, all mortgagees are empowered, at the expiration of five years from the date of their mortgage, to take possession of the lands granted in mortgage, and retain the same until the mortgage is paid off, setting the lands yearly by public auction, and crediting the mortgager with the rent. Notwithstanding which the mortgager has a right at any time to pay off the mortgage within twenty-one years."

IRISH ERRATUM.

WE copy the following characteristic erratum from an Irish paper of last month:—"For *Mrs. Fitzgerald, Esq.* read *Mr. Fitzgerald, Esq.*"

Gymnastics.

No. IV.

GYMNASTICS, the auxiliary art among the Romans to that of war, and to the chivalric exercises of the middle ages, are gradually gaining celebrity and importance in this country, and will, we believe, soon be regarded as an important feature in the education of British youth. Thus confined, they will prove of great service, and by a free and constant exercise of the muscular powers of the human frame, will enable the gymnast to be

"Strong as a lion, and wondrous valiant."

We have already given in our last volume an historical notice of gymnastics, with an engraving of the climbing and mounting stand, and intend, from time to time,

Introducing illustrative wood-engravings of the initiatory exercises, in order that students attaining to proficiency in the science, may become more familiarly acquainted with the nature and utility of the art.

After training the body, by gradually throwing the limbs and stretching the muscles in various positions, the student will be enabled to sustain the fatigue of exercising on the

Parallel Bars.



The pupil being placed between the two horizontal bars, which are parallel to each other, by a strong pressure of his hands on both the bars he must raise his body, the arms being kept perfectly straight, and the legs close. In this position the body is vaulted over the bar to the right or left. The pupil is then directed to walk on his hands along the two bars, backwards and forwards, to pass with both his hands from one bar to another, his body being suspended the whole time. The exercises on the parallel bars improve the flexibility of the joints, strengthen the muscles, and must be used preparatory to the

Leaping Bars.



This ranks among the most excellent of the gymnastic exercises, for it strength-

ens and gives elasticity to the feet, legs, knees, and thighs, and braces every muscle while it invigorates the courage. Two posts are perpendicularly fixed in the ground, about seven feet asunder, and each of these posts are perforated with holes at small but regular intervals, for inserting an iron pin, on which is loosely hung a horizontal cord, the pin being placed at equal heights on the two opposite posts. A small bag, containing either a bit of lead or stone, at each end, tightens the cord. This may be practised either standing or running, and should the leaper miss the proposed height, the cord easily yields, and prevents any disagreeable accident. The leaper must be careful to raise his feet and knees in a straight direction, neither separating the legs, nor inclining them to either side; and in taking a running leap, the run must be a short, tripping step on the toes, gradually quickened, as this does not exhaust the strength previous to the leap. The body must always be inclined forwards in rising, and the leaper must observe not to pitch wholly on his heels, but chiefly on the toes and balls of the feet.

To acquire strength and pliability of body, courage and presence of mind, preservation of equilibrium and accuracy of eye, recourse must be had to

The Wooden Horse.



This is an oblong block of wood, rudely shaped like a horse's body, and covered on the top with a cushion of stuffed leather. The exercise consists in placing one or both hands on the block, and, in the leap, throwing one leg over it, and so bestriding it. Both legs and the body are, sometimes, thrown quite over it, which may be done either standing or with a run.—Our limits forbid further observation in this number, and we for the present take leave of the subject, and our readers, convinced that gymnastics are an agreeable and necessary branch of

education, and that by practising them health will be promoted, the spirits invigorated, and the mind strengthened.

The Selector;

OR,
CHOICE EXTRACTS FROM
NEW WORKS.

NARRATIVE OF THE DEATH OF NELSON.

THE two fleets manœuvred for more than an hour for the purpose of choosing their positions, and terminating the preparations for a battle that was henceforth inevitable. The Redoutable was in the centre, and a little in front of the French line, which by the admiral's last orders had been formed in a semi-circle. Immediately in front of him was an English three-decker, carrying a vice-admiral's flag, and consequently commanded by Nelson. This vessel occupied in the English fleet the same position which the Redoutable did in ours. All at once it made signals, which were instantly answered, and advanced with full sail upon us, whilst the other vessels followed its example. The intention of its commander was evidently to cut our line by attacking the Redoutable, which presented its flank, and discharged its first broadside.

This was the signal for action. The English vessel returned the fire; and at the same moment, there began along the whole of the two lines a fire of artillery which was not to cease, except by the extermination of one of the two squadrons. Already cries of suffering and death were heard on the decks of the Redoutable. By the first discharge, one officer, and more than thirty sailors and soldiers were killed or wounded. This was the first time I had been in action; and an emotion I had never felt till now made my heart beat violently. Fear might form an ingredient in the feeling; but it was mingled with other sentiments which I could not account for. I was grieved that I was kept in a post where I had nothing else to do but to fire my gun upon the enemy's deck. I should have desired a more active duty, to be allowed to go over the ship, and to work one of the cannons. My desires were soon gratified. All our top-men had been killed, when two sailors and four soldiers (of whom I was one) were ordered to occupy their post in the tops. While we were going aloft, the balls and grape-shot showered around us, struck the masts and yards, knocked large splinters from them, and cut the rigging in pieces. One of my

companions was wounded beside me, and fell from a height of thirty feet upon the deck, where he broke his neck.

When I reached the top, my first movement was to take a view of the prospect presented by the hostile fleets. For more than a league, extended a thick cloud of smoke, above which were discernable a forest of masts and rigging, and the flags, the pendants, and the fire of the three nations. Thousands of flashes more or less near continually penetrated this cloud, and a rolling noise pretty similar to the sound of continued thunder, but much stronger, arose from its bosom. The sea was calm; the wind light, and not very favourable for the execution of manœuvres.

When the English top-men, who were only a few yards distant from us, saw us appear, they directed a sharp fire upon us, which we returned. A soldier of my company and a sailor were killed quite close to me; two others, who were wounded, were able to go below by the shrouds. Our opponents were, it seems, still worse handled than we, for I soon saw the English tops deserted, and none sent to supply the place of those who must have been killed or wounded by our balls. I then looked to the English vessel and our own. The smoke that enveloped them was dissipated for a moment, and returned thicker at each broadside. The two decks were covered with dead bodies, which they had not time to throw overboard. I perceived captain Lucas motionless at his post, and several wounded officers still giving orders. On the poop of the English vessel, was an officer covered with orders, and with only one arm. From what I had heard of Nelson, I had no doubt that it was he. He was surrounded by several officers, to whom he seemed to be giving orders. At the moment I first perceived him, several of his sailors were wounded beside him, by the fire of the Redoutable. As I had received no orders to go down, and saw myself forgotten in the tops, I thought it my duty to fire on the poop of the English vessel, which I saw quite exposed and close to me. I could even take aim at the men I saw, but I fired at hazard among the groups I saw of sailors and officers. All at once I saw great confusion on board the Victory, the men crowded round the officer whom I had taken for Nelson. He had just fallen, and was taken below covered with a cloak. The agitation shown at this moment left me no doubt that I had judged rightly, and that it really was the English admiral. An instant afterwards the Victory ceased from firing; the deck was abandoned by

all those who occupied it; and I presumed that the consternation produced by the admiral's fall was the cause of this sudden change. I hurried below to inform the captain of what I had seen of the enemy's situation. He believed me the more readily as the slackening of the fire indicated that an event of the highest importance occupied the attention of the English ship's crew, and prevented them from continuing the action. He gave immediate orders for boarding, and every thing was prepared for it in a moment. It is even said that young Fontaine, a midshipman belonging to the *Redoutable*, passed by the ports into the lower deck of the English vessel, found it abandoned, and returned to notify that the ship had surrendered. As Fontaine was killed a few moments afterwards, these particulars were obtained from a sailor, who said he had witnessed the transaction.

However, as a part of our crew, commanded by two officers, were ready to spring upon the enemy's deck, the fire recommenced with a fury it never had had from the beginning of the action. Meanwhile, an English eighty-gun ship placed herself along-side of the *Redoutable* to put it between two fires; and a French ship of the same force placed itself abreast of the *Victory*, to put it in the same situation. There was then seen a sight hitherto unexampled in naval warfare, and not since repeated—four vessels, all in the same direction, touching each other, dashing one against another, intermingling their yards, and fighting with a fury which no language can adequately express. The rigging was abandoned, and every sailor and soldier put to the guns; the officers themselves had nothing to provide for, nothing to order, in this horrible conflict, and came likewise to the guns. Amidst nearly four hundred pieces of large cannon, all firing at one time, in a confined space—amidst the noise of the balls, which made furious breaches in the sides of the *Redoutable*—amongst the splinters which flew in every direction with the speed of projectiles, and the dashing of the vessels, which were driven by the waves against each other, not a soul thought of any thing but destroying the enemy, and the cries of the wounded and the dying were no longer heard. The men fell, and if they were any impediment to the action of the gun they had just been working, one of their companions pushed them aside with his foot to the middle of the deck, and without uttering a word, placed himself with concentrated fury at the same post, where he soon experienced a similar fate.

In less than half an hour our vessel,

without having hauled down her colours, had in fact surrendered. Her fire had gradually slackened, and then ceased altogether. The mutilated bodies of our companions encumbered the two decks, which were covered with shot, broken cannon, matches still smoking, and shattered timbers. One of our thirty-six pounders had burst towards the close of the contest. The thirteen men placed at it had been killed by the splinters, and were heaped together round its broken carriage. The ladders that led between the different decks were shattered and destroyed; the mizen-mast and main-mast had fallen, and encumbered the deck with blocks and pieces of rigging. Of the boats placed forward, or hung on the sides of our vessel, there remained nothing but some shattered planks. Not more than a hundred and fifty men survived out of a crew of about eight hundred, and almost all these were more or less severely wounded. Captain Lucas was one of the number.

Adventures of a French Sergeant.

MODERN MEALS.

THE stomach being distended with soup, the digestion of which, from the very nature of the operations which are necessary for its completion, would in itself be a sufficient labour for that organ, is next tempted with fish, rendered indigestible from its sauces; then with flesh and fowl; the vegetable world, as an intelligent reviewer has observed, is ransacked from the *cryptogamia* upwards; and to this miscellaneous aggregate is added the pernicious pasticcios of the pastry-cook, and the complex combinations of the confectioner. All these evils, and many more, have those who move in the ordinary society of the present day to contend with. It is not to one or two good dishes, even abundantly indulged in, but to the overloading of the stomach, that such strong objections are to be urged; nine persons in ten eat as much soup and fish as would amply suffice for a meal, and as far as soup and fish are concerned, would rise from the table, not only satisfied but saturated. A new stimulus appears in the form of stewed beef, or *cotelettes à la supreme*; then comes a Bayonne or Westphalia ham, or a pickled tongue, or some analogous salted, but proportionately indigestible dish, and of each of these enough for a single meal.* But this is not all; game follows; and to this again succeeds the sweets, and a quantity of cheese. The whole is crowned with a variety of stultulent fruits and indigestible knick-knacks,

included under the name of dessert, in which we must not forget to notice a mountain of sponge cake. Thus, then, it is, that the stomach is made to receive, not one full meal, but a succession of meals rapidly following each other, and trying in their miscellaneous and pernicious nature with the ingredients of Macbeth's cauldron. Need the philosopher then, any longer wonder at the increasing number and severity of dyspeptic complaints, with their long train of maladies, amongst the higher classes of society?

"*Innumerales morbos non miraberis, equos numeros.*" But it may be said, that this is a mere tirade against quantity; against over-distension of the stomach; that it argues nothing against variety of food, provided the sum of all the dishes does not exceed that which might be taken of any single one. Without availing myself of the argument so usually applied against plurality of food, that "it induces us to eat too much," I will meet the question upon fair grounds. It is evident that the different varieties of food require very different exertions of the stomach for their digestion; it may be that the gastric juice varies in composition, according to the specific nature of the stimulus which excites the vessels to secrete it; but of this we are uncertain, nor is it essential to the argument; it is sufficient to know, that one species of food is passed into the duodenum in a chymified state in half the time which is required to effect the same change in another. Where, then, the stomach is charged with contents which do not harmonize with each other in this respect, we shall have the several parts of the mixed mass at the same time in different stages of digestion; one part will therefore be retained beyond the period destined for its expulsion, while another will be hurried forward before its change has been sufficiently completed. It is then highly expedient, particularly for those with weak stomachs, to eat but one species of food, so that it may be all digested and expelled at nearly the same period of time; that when the duodenal digestion has been fully established, the operations of the stomach shall have ceased.

BREAD.

THE importance of bread, as an article of diet, will be easily deduced from the principles upon which the digestion of food in the stomach has been already explained. In addition to its nutritive qualities it performs a mechanical duty of some importance. It serves to divide the food, and to impart a suitable bulk

and consistence to it; it is therefore more necessary to conjoin it with articles containing much aliment in a small space than where the food is both bulky and nutritive. The concentrated cookery of the French is rendered much more wholesome from the large quantity of bread which that people use at their meals. I know from personal experience how greatly this habit can correct the evil which arises from rich soups and ragouts. If I eat a rich soup, without a considerable quantity of stale bread, I inevitably suffer from heart-burn; but it never offends my stomach when taken with such a premeditation. Bread should never be eaten new; in such a state it swells, like a sponge in the stomach, and proves very indigestible. Care should also be taken to obtain bread that has been duly baked. Unless all its parts are intimately mixed, and the fixed air expelled, it will be apt, in very small quantities, to produce acoseny and indigestion.

FISH.

TURBOT is an excellent article of food; but it is usually rendered difficult of digestion by the quantity of lobster or oyster sauce with which it is eaten. Sole is tender, and yet sufficiently firm; it is, therefore, easy of digestion, and affords proper nutriment to delicate stomachs. It is necessary to state, that every part of the same fish is not equally digestible; and it unfortunately happens, that those which are considered the most delicious, are, at the same time, the most exceptionable; the pulpy gelatinous skin of the turbot, and the glutinous parts about the head of the cod, are very apt to disagree with invalids. Salmon, may, perhaps, be considered the most nutritive of our fish; but it is heating and oily, and not very digestible; and persons, even with strong stomachs, are frequently under the necessity of taking some stimulant to assist its digestion. The addition of lobster sauce renders it still more unwholesome; the best condiment that can be used is vinegar. As connected with the time of spawning, the season of the year has the most decided influence upon the quality of the salmon. It is in the highest perfection, or in season, as it is termed, sometime previous to its spawning; the flesh is then firm and delicious; whereas, after this event, it is for some time unfit for food. This circumstance, however, is not sufficient to prevent those who have an opportunity from catching and eating the fish in that state; and the legislature has accordingly found it necessary to fix the periods at which salmon fishing is lawful. In Ireland, where

there is great freedom used in killing salmon, during and after the spawning season, the eating of the fish at such times has been often found to be productive of disease; and Dr. Walker has related a circumstance of the same kind as having occurred in Scotland. Salmon trout is not so rich and oily as the salmon; although, therefore, it is less nutritive, it is at the same time, less heating and more digestible. Eels are extremely objectionable, on account of the large proportion of oil which they contain. I have witnessed several cases of indigestion and alimentary disturbance from their use. When eaten, they should always be qualified with vinegar. From these observations, the value of fish may be appreciated, and the qualities which entitle them to election easily understood. Firmness of texture, whiteness of muscle, and the absence of oiliness and viscosity, are the circumstances which render them acceptable to weak stomachs.

Shell-fish have been greatly extolled by some physicians, as nutritive and easily-digestible articles of food. It will be necessary to examine this question, by the application of those principles which I have endeavoured to establish. Oysters, in my opinion, enjoy a reputation which they do not deserve; when eaten cold, they are frequently distressing to weak stomachs, and require the aid of pepper as a stimulant; and since they are usually swallowed without mastication, the stomach has an additional labour to perform, in order to reduce them into chyle. When cooked, they are still less digestible, on account of the change produced upon their albuminous principle. It is, however, certain, that they are nourishing, and contain a considerable quantity of nutritive matter in a small compass; but this latter circumstance affords another objection to their use. Certain it is that oysters have occasionally produced injurious effects, which have been attributed to their having laid on coppery beds; but this idea is entirely unfounded, and arose merely from the green colour which they often acquire, the cause of which is now generally understood; it is sometimes an operation of nature, but it is more generally produced by art, by placing them in a situation where there is a great deposit from the sea, consisting of the vegetating germs of marine *conferæ* and *fuci*, and which impart their colour to the oysters. For this object, the Dutch formerly carried oysters from our coasts, and deposited them on their own. Native oysters transported into the Colchester beds soon assume a green colour. Where this food has produced a

fit of indigestion, it has evidently arisen from the indigestible nature of the oyster, and the state of the individual's stomach at the time; and had such a person indulged, to the same amount, in any equally indigestible aliment, there can be no doubt but that he would have experienced similar effects. Doctor Clarke has related some striking cases of convulsion, which occurred to women after child-birth, in consequence of eating oysters; the same effects might have supervened the indigestion of any food that is not easily digestible; for the stomach of a woman at such a period, in consequence of the irritable state of the nervous system, is easily disturbed in its functions. . . . Lobsters are certainly nutritive; but they are exposed to the same objection, on the ground of indigestibility; and such has been their effect upon certain stomachs, as to have excited a suspicion of their containing some poisonous principle; they have been known to occasion pain in the throat; and, besides eruptions upon the skin, to extend their morbid influence to the production of pain in the stomach, and affection of the joints. As found in the London market, they are generally under-boiled, with a view to their better keeping; and in that case they are highly indigestible. The same observations apply to the crab.

DRINK.

THOSE physicians who have insisted upon the necessity of a total abstinence of liquid during a meal, appear to have forgotten that every general rule must be regulated by circumstances. The best test of its necessity is afforded by the sensations of the individual, which ought not to be disregarded merely because they appear in opposition to some preconceived theory. The valetudinarian who, without the feeling of thirst, drinks during a meal because he has heard that it assists digestion; and he who abstains from liquid, in opposition to this feeling, in consequence of the clamour which the partisans of a popular lecturer have raised against the custom; will equally err, and contribute to the increase of the evil they so anxiously seek to obviate. Dr. W. Philip has stated a fact, the truth of which my own experience justifies, that "eating too fast causes thirst; for the food being swallowed without a due admixture of saliva, the mass formed in the stomach is too dry." As hunger and thirst are, to a certain extent, incompatible sensations, it is probable that nature intended that the appetite for food should first be satisfied, before a supply of drink

becomes necessary; and if our food possess that degree of succulence which characterizes digestible aliment, there will be no occasion for it. But, under any circumstances, the quantity taken should be small; it is during the intervals of our solid meals that the liquid necessary for the repair of our fluids should be taken; and both theory and experience appear in this respect to conform, and to demonstrate the advantage which attends a liquid repast about four or five hours after the solid meal. At about this period the chyle has entered its proper vessels, and is flowing into the blood, in order to undergo its final changes. Then it is that the stomach, having disposed of its charge, receives the wholesome draught with the greatest advantage; then it is that the blood, impregnated with new materials, requires the assistance of a diluent to complete their sanguification, and to carry off the superfluous matter; and it is then that the kidneys and the skin will require the aid of additional water to assist the performance of their functions. The common beverage of tea, or some analogous repast, originally suggested no doubt by an instinctive desire for liquid at this period, is thus sanctioned by theory, while its advantages are established by experience.

Water is unquestionably the natural beverage of man; but any objection against the use of other beverages, founded on their artificial origin, I should at once repel by the same argument which has been adduced in defence of cookery. We are to consider man as he is, not as he might have been, had he never forsaken the rude path of nature. I am willing to confess, that "the more simple life is supported, and the less stimulus we use, the better; and that he is happy who considers water the best drink, and salt the best sauce;" but how rarely does a physician find a patient who has regulated his life by such a maxim! He is generally called upon to reform stomachs, already vitiated by bad habits, and which cannot, without much discipline, be reconciled to simple and healthy aliment. Under such circumstances, nothing can be more injudicious than abruptly to withdraw the accustomed stimuli, unless it can be shown that they are absolutely injurious; a question which it will be my duty to investigate hereafter.

Dr. Paris on Diet.

ADVANTAGE OF SILENCE.

DEAR Bell, to gain money, sure silence is best,
For dumb bells are fittest to open the chest.

Useful Domestic Receipts.

A Recipe for making the famous Perfume, termed by the French Pot-pourri.

ORANGE-FLOWERS and common rose-leaves, of each one pound.

Leaves of red pinks, half a pound.

Leaves of marjoram and myrtle, carefully picked, each half a pound.

Leaves of musk roses, thyme, lavender, rosemary, sage, camomile, melilot, hyssop, sweet basil, and balm, of each two ounces.

Jessamine flowers, two or three handfuls.

Laurel leaves, fifteen or twenty.

Exterior rind of lemons, a large handful.

Small green oranges, about the same quantity.

Salt, half a pound.

Put all into a well-leaded earthen jar, and stir the whole carefully with a wooden spatula or spoon twice a day for a month. Afterwards add,

Florentine white iris and benzoin, of each twelve ounces.

Cloves and cinnamon powdered, of each two ounces.

Mace, storax, calamus aromaticus, and cyprus (*bois de Rhodes*) of each one ounce.

Lemon-coloured sandal, and long sweet cyprus, of each six drachmas.

Stir all together, as before directed, and the issue will be the complete, genuine, delightful perfume, termed *pot-pourri*. The proportions specified above must be carefully attended to; as on this much of the perfection of this elegant composition depends; the quantities being so adjusted that in the combination of all these fine odours not one is found to predominate beyond another.

ANTIDOTE FOR VEGETABLE POISONS.

E. DRAPIER has ascertained, by numerous experiments, that the fruit of *Fewillea Cordifolia* is a powerful antidote against vegetable poisons. He poisoned dogs by the *Rhus Toxicodendron*, (*Swamp Sumac*) Hemlock, and *Nux Vomica*. All those that were left to the poison died; but those to whom the *Fewillea* was administered recovered completely, after a short illness.

HOOPING COUGH.

A PLASTER of gum galbanum applied to the chest, cures this dreadful malady.

Miscellaneous.

THE SEASON.

A SINGULAR phenomenon has been observed in the river Deben in Suffolk, between Woodbridge and the sea. Eels to a great extent, in respect both to number and size, have died. The oldest fishermen of this port and river recollect nothing like it. The ferryman at Woodbridge declares that he has himself seen dead on different days within the last fortnight "a tumbrel load, some as big as his oar, and a yard long or more." He adds, that for some days before the last spring tides, "the water and air stunk with them." The late high tides carried them away. Some hogs lower down are said to have made early discovery of the savoury banquet. They are described as exhibiting a ludicrous scene, running about with an immense eel dangling out of their mouths, chased peradventure by their envious messmates. One gentleman states that he counted on the Sutton bank of the river, opposite Woodbridge, 75 dead eels, in the space of a few yards. An unusual mortality among the same fish has been recently observed also on the Orwell. The cause of this occurrence is not known. No gas machinery, or any thing whatever connected with deleterious matter, exists near the course of the Deben.

HATRED OF THE NORMANS.

IN the beginning of the conqueror's reign, the rancour of the English towards the new-come Normans was such, that finding them single in the woods, or remote places, they secretly murdered them, and the deed-doers could never be discovered; whereupon it was ordained that the hundred wherein a Norman was found slain, and the murderer not taken, should be condemned to pay to the king 36*l.* or 28*l.* according to the quantity of the hundred.

DROWNIES.

SOME have compared this class of imaginary beings to the satyrs of the ancients; but without reason, since they had no disposition or point of character in common, excepting a fondness for solitude, which the *brownie* possessed only at certain seasons of the year. About the end of the harvest he became more sociable, and hovered about farm-yards, stables, and cattle-houses. He had a particular fondness for the products of the dairy,

and was a fearful intruder on milk-maids, who made regular libations of milk or cream, to charm him off, or to procure his favour. He could be seen only by those who had the *second sight*; yet I have heard of instances where he made himself visible to those who were not so gifted. He is said to have been a jolly, personable being, with a broad blue bonnet, flowing, yellow hair, and a long walking-staff. Every manor-house had its *arwing*, or *brownie*, and in the kitchen, close by the fire, was a seat which was left unoccupied for him. The house of a proprietor on the banks of the Tay, is, even at this day, believed to have been haunted by this sprite, and a particular apartment therein has been for centuries called *brownie's room*. When irritated through neglect or disrespectful treatment, he would not hesitate to become wantonly mischievous. He was, notwithstanding, rather gainly and good-natured than formidable. Though, on the whole, a lazy, lounging hobgoblin, he would often bestir himself in behalf of those who understood his humours, and suited themselves thereto. When in this mood, he was known to perform many arduous exploits in kitchen, barn, and stable (*no cernitur ulli*), with marvellous precision and rapidity. These kind turns were done without bribe, fee, or reward, for the offer of any of these would banish him for ever. Kind treatment was all that he wished for; and it never failed to procure his favour.

In the northern parts of Scotland, the *brownie's* disposition was more mercenary. Brand, in his description of Zetland, observes, that "not above forty or fifty years ago, almost every family had a *brownie*, or evil spirit so called, which served them, to which they gave a sacrifice for his service; as when they churned their milk, they took a part thereof, and sprinkled every part of the house with it, for *brownie's* use; likewise when they brewed they had a stone, which they called *brownie's stone*, wherein there was a little hole, into which they poured some wort for a sacrifice to *brownie*. They also had stacks of corn, which they called *brownie's stacks*, which, though they were not bound with straw-ropes, or any way fenced, as other stacks used to be, yet the greatest storm of wind was not able to blow any straw off them."

The *brownies* seldom discoursed with man, but they held frequent and affectionate converse with one another. They had their general assemblies too; and on these occasions they commonly selected for their rendezvous the rocky recesses of some remote torrent, whence their loud

voices, mingling with the water's roar, carried to the ears of wondering superstitious detached parts of their unearthly colloquies.

Armstrong's Gaelic Dictionary.

SWALLOWS.

It is accounted unlucky to destroy swallows: this is probably a pagan relic. We read in *Ælian*, that these birds were sacred to the Penates, or household gods of the ancients, and therefore were preserved. They were honoured anciently as the nuncios of the spring. The Rhodians are said to have had a solemn anniversary song to welcome in the swallow. Anacreon addressed his tenth ode to this bird, and the following is an elegant translation of it by T. Moore, Esq. :—

ODE.

Tell me how to punish thee,
For the mischief done to me?
Silly Swallow! prating thing,
Shall I clip that wheeling wing;
Or as *Tereus* did of old,
[So the fabled tale is told].
Shall I tear that tongue away;
Tongue that utter'd such a lay?
How unthinking hast thou been!
Long before the dawn was seen,
When I slumber'd in a dream,
(Love was the delicious theme)
Just when I was nearly blest,
Ah! thy matin broke my rest.

* Modern poetry has confirmed the name of Philomel upon the nightingale; but many very respectable ancients assigned this metamorphosis to Progne, and made Philomel the swallow, as Anacreon does here.

PRECEDENCE.

CHAPELLE and the Marshal de —, once supping together, amidst the glasses began to reflect on the calamities of this life, and the uncertainty whether there might not be one hereafter. This led them to agree, that nothing could be more tremendous than to live without religion; but at the same time it seemed to them impossible to hold on in a Christian course for a long succession of years; and they thought the martyrs had had the best of it, who, in a few momentary sufferings, were translated to an eternal felicity. "In order to the same expeditious way, we cannot," says Chapelle, "do better than go as Christian missionaries to Turkey. We shall be seized and carried before some infidel pacha; I'll give him a Rowland for his Oliver, and you, marshal, must be sure not to flinch. I shall be impaled for my resolution; next you'll be impaled; and so we get to heaven in a trice." The marshal, piqued that Cha-

pelle assumed the precedence, took him up. "No, no; 'tis I, who am a duke, a peer, and a marshal of France, who must be the spokesman and the leading martyr." "A fig for your marshal and duke," replied Chapelle. Upon which the marshal threw his plate at Chapelle's head; Chapelle grappled with the marshal; tables, chairs, glasses, &c. were upset, and flew about in an instant. The hurly-burly drew the servants, who parted them; but the occasion of it was long remembered at court.

KING COLE.

DEGENERACY OF THE AGE.

THE degeneracy of the present age is a source of bitter regret. How much our nobility have fallen off in the capacity of their stomachs and the quality of their taste, may be ascertained by the following proofs:

Allowance of provisions granted to Lady Lucy, one of the *maids of honour* in the reign of Henry VIII.

Breakfast.—A chine of beef, a loaf, a gallon of ale.

Luncheon.—Bread and a gallon of ale.

Dinner.—A piece of boiled beef, a slice of roast meat, a gallon of ale.

Supper.—Porridge, mutton, a loaf, and a gallon of ale.

The breakfast of an earl and countess in the *lent season*:—A loaf of bread, 2 coarse loaves, a quart of beer, ditto or wine, 2 pieces of salt fish, 6 bacooned herrings, 4 white ditto, a dish of sprats.

The Gatherer.

"I am but a Gatherer and disposer of other men's stuff."—*Notton.*

A LEARNED PROFESSOR.

M. VILLEMMAIN, a French professor, in one of his recent Lectures, made a furious attack on the memory of our late General Burgoyne, for having taken as auxiliaries "the cannibals of the Oroonoko." The learned professor forgot that the scene of General Burgoyne's exploits was in North America; that the Oroonoko, ever since it has been a river, has confined its meandering to South America; and that the inhabitants of its banks are as little cannibals as those of the Seine. The same M. Villemmain, in his "Life of Cromwell," very learnedly disavowed two English bishops, the bishop of Winchester and the bishop of Winton—forgetting that Winton and Winchester happened to be the very same city.

A GOURMAND.

THE Emperor Vitellius made four principal meals every day, and sometimes five. He was so little master of his hunger, that he invited himself to his friends' houses, and made them treat him so sumptuously, that he nearly ruined them. His brother once treated him with 2,000 fishes and 7,000 birds, all exquisite and scarce. He had always in his house a quantity of pheasants' livers, tongues of pikes, peacocks' brains, and every kind of fowls and dainties, only procurable at an enormous price. Josephus says, that had this prince lived long, all the revenues of the empire would not have been sufficient to maintain his table.

QUICK AND THE BROKER.

QUICK, one day, passing through Broker-row, Moorfields, was seized upon by a *barker*, who pulled him into the shop, and began puffing off his tables and chairs. Quick, being infirm, made little resistance, but asked the man if he was master of the shop? "No, sir, but I will fetch him immediately." The man returned with his master. "Are you master of the shop, sir?" "Yes, sir, what can I do for you?" "Only just hold your man for a minute while I go out!"

CHURCH REFRESHMENT.

DON BERNARDINE DE SALAZAR, bishop of Chiapa, in South America, was poisoned by the women of that city, because he had fixed in writing upon the church door, an excommunication against all such as should presume, at the time of service, to eat or drink within the church, against which the women protested, that they could not continue during the whole service without a cup of hot chocolate, and a bit of sweetmeats to refresh them.

SCOTCH SALUTATION.

THE North Briton at Auld Reeky, frequently greets his friend with "Weel, Donald, is na this a *fine* cauld rainy morning?" "Indeed is it, Sandy, a *fine* cauld rainy morning."

SAXON REVENGE.

AT Hadstoe, in Essex, there is to this day, on the north door of the church, the skin of a Dane, which shows that there had been thereabouts, some spart en-

gement between the Danes and Saxons, and this was one of the pieces of revenge which the Saxons, on their getting the upper hand again, executed upon them.

ABSENCE OF MIND.

A MERCHANT in signing the baptismal register of one of his children, wrote, "Peter Coule and Company," without perceiving his error till aroused to it by the laughter of his friends.

HOUSE-LEEK.

IT is common, in the north of England, to plant the herb, house-leek, upon the top of cottage houses. The learned author of *Vulgar Errors*, informs us, that it was an ancient superstition, and this herb was planted on the tops of houses as a *defensive against lightning and thunder*.—*Quincunx*, 126.

OLD ENGLISH PENNY.

IN Edward the First's time the penny was wont to have a double cross with a crest, in such sort that the same might be easily broken in the middle, or in a quarter, and so made halfpence or farthings.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE following are intended for insertion next week:—*The Watling Places*; F. T. W.; G. W. N. J.; F. R.—y; and N. W. F.

Mr. Burden will find a letter for him at our Publisher's.

A Traveller will find, on reference to page 57, Vol. IV. that one of the drawings he favoured us with has already been adopted; the other shall appear.

We have just received the following communications:—M. H. S.; C. N.; *Will o' the Wisp*; *Guibert*; W. Chaucer; and E. Clarke.

Hubert shall appear in No. 212.

We wish L—c—t—r a safe voyage, and shall be happy to receive his drawings, &c. when he returns.

W. D. Carr's poetry is pleasing, and the moral well delineated; but is not sufficiently correct for insertion in our columns.

Syphax; J. B.; G. M. B.; Z.; L. P.; A *Constant Reader*; M. L. B.; J.; K. L.; and *Amatis of Gaul*, are under consideration.

Judgment deferred upon S.; C. Y.; *Old Harry Junior*; and T. J. D—g.

Answers to other Correspondents will be given in our next.

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